PUBLIC BOND ACQUISITION PURPOSES FOR BALLONA WETLANDS

Proposition 12 Funding. (2000) **$ 25 Million to Ballona Wetlands**

Ballot title

The ballot title for Proposition 12 was as follows:

"Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000."

Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, Coastal Protection

Ballot summary

The ballot summary for this measure was:

"• Provides for a bond issue of two billion one hundred million dollars ($2,100,000,000) to provide funds to protect land around lakes, rivers, and streams and the coast to improve water quality and ensure clean drinking water; to protect forests and plant trees to improve air quality; to preserve open space and farmland threatened by unplanned development; to protect wildlife habitats; and to repair and improve the safety of state and neighborhood parks.

• Appropriates money from state General Fund to pay off bonds."

Proposition 50 Public Funding for Ballona Wetlands

Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Fund 2002

Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal & Beach Protection $ 140 MILLION TO BALLONA

appropriated from the fund to the Wildlife Conservation Board, without regard to fiscal years, for the acquisition, protection, and restoration of coastal wetlands, upland areas adjacent to coastal wetlands, and coastal watershed lands. Money appropriated pursuant to this section shall be for the acquisition, protection, and restoration of lands in or adjacent to urban areas. Eligible projects shall be limited to the following:

(1) Acquisition, protection, and restoration of coastal wetlands identified in the Southern California Coastal Wetlands Inventory as of January 1, 2001, published by the State Coastal Conservancy, located within the coastal zone, and other wetlands connected and proximate to such coastal wetlands, and upland areas adjacent and proximate to such coastal wetlands, or coastal wetlands identified for acquisition, protection, and restoration in the San Francisco Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report, and upland areas adjacent to the identified wetlands.

(2) Acquisition, protection, and restoration of coastal watershed and adjacent lands located in Los Angeles, Ventura, and Santa Barbara Counties. Any project financed pursuant to this paragraph within the Santa Monica Mountains Zone, as defined in Section 33105 of the Public Resources Code, shall be by grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Any project financed pursuant to this paragraph within the Baldwin Hills area, as defined in Section 32553 of the Public Resources Code, shall be by grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to the Baldwin Hills Conservancy.

(b) Not less than three hundred million dollars ($300,000,000) of the amount appropriated in this section shall be expended or granted for projects within Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Of the remaining funds available pursuant to this section the Wildlife Conservation Board shall give priority to the acquisition of not less than 100 acres consisting of upland mesa areas, including wetlands therein, adjacent to the state ecological reserve in the Bolsa Chica wetlands in Orange County.

State of California Purpose of Ballona Wetlands Acquisition:

Wildlife **C**onservation **B**oard
Proposition 50 Bond Funds
Acquire Ballona Wetlands & LMP

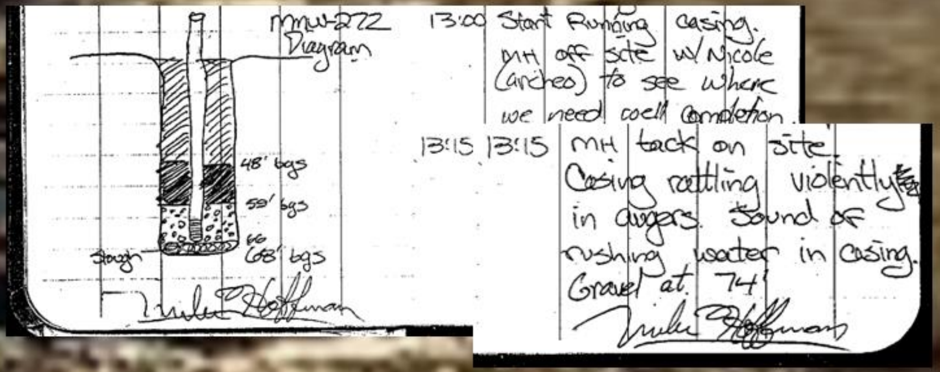
Fish & **G**ame **C**ommission
Regulatory Decisionmakers
*** Regulatory Purpose of Acquisition ***

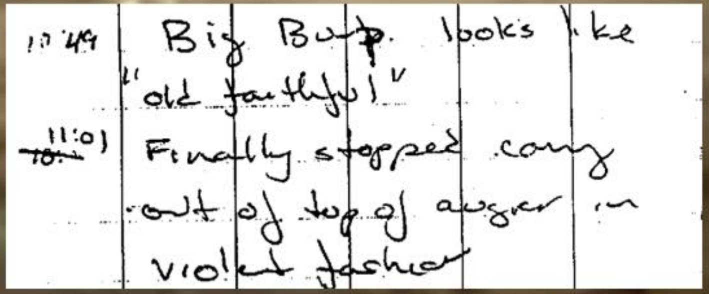
Department **F**ish & **W**ildlife
Enforce Regulatory Decisions

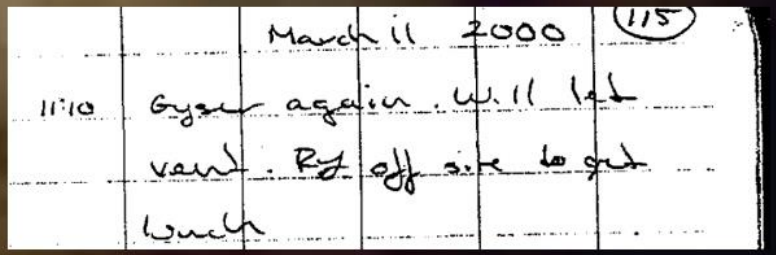
*** Title 14 (Natural Resources), Section 630 Ecological Reserve--Terrestrial, Non- Marine**

***Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve specific Purpose & Goals:** Protect freshwater resources, saltmarsh habitat and endangered species reliant upon that habitat (Belding's Savannah Sparrow) and wildlife corridors. FGC approved and registered at Office of Administrative Law in 2005.

Ballona Wetlands is known for its freshwater at and near its surface, having multiple underground freshwater aquifers which flow underground & when drilled….geyser like 'Old Faithful'







Playa Vista Drilling Logs 2000


The value of wetland ecosystems
that remain intact…
December 30, 2021 Ballona. Jonathan Coffin

The ongoing planning efforts associated with the Ballona watershed can benefit from the insights of historical ecology. While the Ballona watershed is highly urbanized, it retains remnants of its historical natural resources mainly in the form of coastal wetlands and natural springs Developing an understanding of potential restoration options in such landscapes depends upon a sound understanding of both contemporary conditions and historical ecological wetland functions. *Introduction, Historical Ecology of Ballona Watershed..*


Ballona.Wetlands.2017.fresh.rain.water.rechargin...
Schwarz stated that flood control aspects are discussed later; but the hydrology section only discusses the tidal component of the hydrologic budget. We need to consider river flows, stormwater flows, and other water sources. In addition, concern about diversion of freshwater flows needs to be considered. SAC 11/11/05
VIDEOS
https://youtu.be/hjsqwSGjNmw
0:05 / 0:19

ideas are not stated here, it becomes harder at the next level where more specifics will be provided. These are important concepts to be included when evaluating the habitat designs. Haltiner is concerned that some objectives are hard to define as now written. Stein recommended that the objectives be edited in accordance with the comments received and will try to make them consistent with the feedback from Haltiner.

12:00 Lunch break – on your own

Managed to take a walk outside—beautiful day in southern California.

12:30 Objectives Discussion, continued

- Hydrology

Schwarz stated that flood control aspects are discussed later; but the hydrology section only discusses the tidal component of the hydrologic budget. We need to consider river flows, stormwater flows, and other water sources. In addition, concern about diversion of freshwater flows needs to be considered. Haltiner questioned whether or not hydrology is really a goal of the project—usually it is a tool to achieve habitat goals. However, if we retain it as a goal, need to consider the freshwater component. Dorsey believes that the freshwater component needs to be placed within the subgoal text. Haltiner suggested the wording "manage freshwater inflows to support the desired on-site habitats and minimize pollutant issues". Stein wants to put the last part under water quality issues. Swift questioned the creation of freshwater/saltwater mixing zone. Haltiner stated that it could be established through a variety design alternatives.

Haltiner stated that now that we have decided to keep a hydrology goal, then we should probably add a statement about flood control to be maintained. Ferren stated that flood control and other issues that are social concerns should be under a separate goal that combines all the social issues in one section (perhaps under commitments). Ambrose stated that some flooding is an ecosystem function and is important in providing a dynamic environment. Stein suggested that we add some wording to allow for accommodation of "dynamic" nature of hydrology in southern California and its importance in structuring the ecosystem. It was agreed that we list flood concerns under social issues.

Callaway suggested that we add some statement about maintaining sediment transport. Haltiner stated that this will allow for sediment accretion under sea level rise.

Stein summarized that hydrology goals will have four parts—tidal flows, management of freshwater inflows, sediment transport, and dynamic nature of the hydrograph.

- Water Quality

Stein expressed his general concern that, as written, is very different from the other goals and focuses on anthropogenic issues. Needs to be more focused on biogeochemical processes within the wetland. Ferren agreed as it was simply 'inherited' from a previous list. Stein questioned whether some of these can actually be measured very effectively. Josselyn stated that biogeochemical processes are an outcome of habitat creation with specific habitat types. He also stated that controlling water quality that enters the marsh might be the better objective. Stein felt it could be added to the societal issues. Haltiner felt that water quality needed to stay prominent. Dorsey felt that water quality problems are of two types—stormwater inflows and the second is pollutant control from spill events. Dorsey stated that the stakeholders want to be sure that (1) we

In 2010 and 2011 two historical studies of the Ballona Watershed confirmed the predominantly closed freshwater nature of Ballona, however the early discussions of need for hydrology studies went nowhere as the environmental studies of the FEIR were essentially completed by 2012.

The on-going planning efforts associated with the Ballona watershed can benefit from the insights of historical ecology. While the Ballona watershed is highly urbanized, it retains remnants of its historical natural resources mainly in the form of coastal wetlands and natural springs. Developing an understanding of potential restoration options in such landscapes depends upon a sound understanding

"Schwarz stated that flood control aspects are discussed later, but the hydrology section only discusses the tidal component of the hydrologic budget."

"Dorsey believes that the freshwater component needs to be placed within a subgoal text."

"Haltiner questioned whether or not hydrology is really a goal of the project—usually it is a gool to achieve habitat goals. However, if we retain it as a goal, need to consider the freshwater component."

TODAY –There are two failed hydraulics studies of the Ballona Channel that have cost approximately $4 Million.

-There are no longer any working agreements with either the County of LA or the Army Corps of Engineers for changes to the Ballona Channel.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COASTAL WATER RESEARCH PROJECT
7171 FENWICK LANE WESTMINSTER, CA 92683-5218
714-894-2222 FAX 714-894-9699

April 29, 2005

April 2005

Project goals:

Dear Dr. :

Thank you for agreeing to participate on the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) for the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project. This project is one of the most important restoration projects in Southern California and we appreciate your assistance in developing the long-term plan for the property. We have assembled a very impressive group of scientists to serve of this committee, and the process promises to be challenging and exciting. The SAC will be co-chaired by Eric Stein of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) and Richard Ambrose of UCLA. A full list of the committee members is provided in the attached materials.

The Conservancy and its project partners are committed to developing a restoration plan for the Ballona Wetlands based on the best available science. The SAC will help achieve this objective by reviewing scientific issues related to restoration approach, design and monitoring. The SAC will contribute to the development and analysis of the preferred restoration alternative. We anticipate that the SAC will meet seven to ten times over the next three years, until the restoration and monitoring plan is complete.

The Ballona Wetlands SAC will act as a sub-committee of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project Science Advisory Panel (SAP). In this capacity activities of the Ballona Wetlands SAC will be distinct from the overall SAP activities, but will be closely coordinated with the SAP's ongoing efforts to develop a regional wetlands monitoring and assessment program. This coordination will occur via the numerous individuals who serve on both the SAC and the SAP.

Schedule and Time Commitment

We realize that you are all very busy and that some members are located far away from the Ballona Wetlands. However, we want to encourage all of you to participate in this process in a meaningful way. If individuals can not attend in person, there will be opportunities to join meetings via conference phone or provide written comments. In addition to the meetings of the full SAC, we may ask individual members to provide input on specific issues depending on their expertise. The SAC may also elect to recruit individuals for technical input on specific elements of the project.

The SAC will contribute to the development of the preferred restoration alternative

Background: Ballona Wetlands Restoration Planning

Last year, the State of California acquired more than 600 acres of the former Ballona Wetlands The property is owned by two state agencies, the Department of Fish and Game and the State Lands Commission. The property was acquired for the purposes of enhancing wetland resources, preserving open space and creating managed public access compatible with the natural resources of the site. A third agency, the State Coastal Conservancy, has a specific appropriation to fund planning and implementation of enhancements to the property.

The three agencies have agreed to work together to develop a restoration plan for the state owned lands. The Coastal Conservancy will fund and manage the restoration planning. Planning was initiated last fall with a public meeting that outlined the approach to restoration planning. The state agencies have committed to developing a plan that is based on the best available science and that is developed with a transparent planning process that allows stakeholders to provide input and com... process.

The following project goals:

- Restore and enhance salt water influenced wetland habitats to benefit Endangered and Threatened species, migratory shorebirds, waterfowl, seabirds, and coastal fish and aquatic species. Restoration of seasonal ponds, riparian and freshwater wetlands, and upland habitats will be considered where beneficial to another project goal or biological and habitat diversity.
- Provide for wildlife-oriented public access and recreation opportunities compatible with the habitats, fish and wildlife conservation.
- Identify and implement a cost-effective, ecologically beneficial, and sustainable (low maintenance) habitat restoration alternative.

Project Organization and Public Participation

The Conservancy and its project partners have also committed to developing a restoration plan for the Ballona Wetlands in a transparent process. Consistent with this approach to restoration planning, the public will be welcome to observe SAC meetings and there will be a specific period at the end of each meeting devoted to public comments. SAC meeting summaries will also be made available to interested stakeholders. In addition to the SAC meetings, we will continue to hold quarterly public meetings to provide an update on the restoration plan for all interested stakeholders. The Working Group meetings will remain the primary venue for public comment on the restoration plan.

Project Management Team includes staff from the Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Fish and Game and the State Lands Commission.

Agency Advisors are staff from other agencies, such as US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service that will advise the Project Management Team. The agency advisors include representatives from the regulatory agencies that will be involved in project permitting.

Ballona Wetlands Restoration Working Group is a stakeholder group comprised of interested parties, agencies and members of the public. The Working Group meets quarterly to obtain project status updates, to provide input, and to support the restoration planning process. These meetings will be open to the public. Subcommittees may be established to address specific issues that may arise during planning. One subcommittee, the **Interim Management and Stewardship Subcommittee,** has already been formed to discuss issues related to site management during the period before the restoration plan is implemented.

A Public Agency for Marine Environmental Research

Restore and enhance salt water influenced habitat..

The proposed schedule for the first year of the project is outlined below.

Meeting #1: Initial Meeting with Tech Consultants and Working Group (may including site tour) Review of proposed consultant scope of work	May-June
Meeting #2: Data Needs Analysis and Data Collection Recommendations Review data report and recommendations	September '05
Meeting #4: Preliminary Alternatives Review conceptual alternatives	January '06

Compensation

The Conservancy has approved a grant to the SCCWRP to pay for costs associated with the SAC. These funds will be used to fund administration and support of the SAC, and to reimburse SAC members for their time and travel costs. In addition, some funding will be available to bring additional expertise to the SAC if needed. SCCWRP will manage the SAC sub-contracting and administration elements of this effort. , including reimbursement for you time and expenses.

We expect Committee members to allocate 6 hrs to attend each meeting plus an additional 4 hours per meeting to review material. We propose to reimburse scientists for their participation based on their current billing rate, up to a maximum of $125/hr. For those scientists who do not have a current billing rate, we propose either a flat fee of $1,000per meeting (include prep time) or $100/hr. We may also request and compensate individuals on a hourly basis for additional review time on specific issues that may be identified by the Project Management Team or the SAC.

In addition to compensation for your time, SCCWRP will compensate members for the actual cost of their travel. Rates for travel reimbursement must comply with the state's grant guidelines, which are included as an attachment to this letter.

Next Steps

Individual members will need to enter into working agreements with SCCWRP in order to be compensated for their participation. A draft agreement is included for your review, if this is acceptable please sign it and return it to SCCWRP. Again, thank you for agreeing to serve on the Ballona Wetlands SAC and we look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

Eric D. Stein, D.Env.
Co-chair

Richard F. Ambrose, Ph.D.
Co-chair

A Public Agency for Marine Environmental Research.....SCCWRP

Coastal Conservancy $$ Grants to Science Advisory Committee trashes the Fish & Game Commission's 2005 approved/registered Purpose and Goals of Acquisition as an Ecological Reserve thereby eliminating funding for evaluation of freshwater natural resources.

Science Advisory Committee Directive

Establish processes and function within the BWER to support estuarine habitats by improving tidal circulation into the wetlands to enlarge the amount of area that is tidally inundated, increase tidal prism and excursión, lower residence time, ensure a more natural salinity gradient, and create a dynamic interaction between Ballona Creek, the Ballona Wetland, and the Santa Monica Bay.

2004 Coastal Conservancy Memo

Goals/Principles

The restoration plan will be based on the best science, incorporate technical scientific expertise, and will be developed through a transparent planning process that allows stakeholders to provide input and comment on all restoration planning products. The restoration planning process will develop and analyze a range of alternatives to implement the following project goals:

* Restore and enhance a mix of wetland habitats to benefit endangered and threatened species as well as other migratory and resident species;
* Provide for wildlife-oriented public access and recreation opportunities; and
* Implement a technically feasible, cost-effective, ecologically beneficial and sustainable restoration.

Note: Goal's intent is to eliminate alternatives that wouldn't take out levees..dynamic interaction, and other hydro processes only possible if you do.

The abundant natural freshwater resources of Ballona Wetlands are never included or evaluated in Alternatives Planning.

Agency concerns unheeded in SCC 'management of process.'

STATE OF CALIFORNIA — Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION
915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 653-6251
Fax (916) 657-5390
Web Site www.nahc.ca.gov
ds_nahc@pacbell.net

January 3, 2011

Ms. Mary Small, Southern California Regional Manager
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: **Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project; Issues Related to Native American Sacred Sites and the Gabrielino Tongva Community**; Los Angeles County, California

Dear Ms. Small:

This is to express concerns regarding the proposed Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project in advance of the completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) being prepared for the project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Ballona Wetlands Project cannot be considered completely apart from the Playa Vista Project, which is being developed along Ballona Creek, upstream, a project site of 1,087-acres with 111-acres still to be developed in Phase II (State Clearinghouse #2002111065), just east of the Ballona Wetlands in the Westchester-Playa Del Rey Community of the City of Los Angeles.

In planning the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project, The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) feels that it is important to involve the entire Gabrielino Tongva Community in the process. Attached is a list for the Conservancy to use in consulting with the Gabrielino Tongva tribes and interested Gabrielino Tongva individuals. Also, is there a role in this project for the California Department of Fish & Game, the property owner.

..is there a role in this project for the California Department of Fish & Game, the property owner.

Fowler Museum at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for curation, under federal statutory guidance. The Playa Vista development adversely affected many Native American sites including the ancient Tongva Village of Sa'anga. These discoveries upstream from the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project site raises the possibility the that new discoveries of Native American artifacts and human remains may be discovered at the proposed site, even though there is no knowledge of such items or burial sites at this time.. The NAHC considers the project to be culturally sensitive.

Also, the NAHC recommends that you develop protocols in the Draft Environmental Impact Report than address the protection of Native American cultural resources. Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for the processes to be followed in the event of the discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery'.

RECEIVED
JAN 03 2011
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Dave Singleton
NAHC

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
http://www.dfg.ca.gov
4949 Viewridge Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201

January 10, 2006

Mr. Bill Rosendahl,
Councilman 11th District
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Rm 415
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Playa Vista Methane Mitigation and Ground Dewatering Issue
(Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve)

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) requests a copy of any mitigation plan, **dewatering plan**, or any document prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) **for its review and comment that identifies potential impacts to the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve** or any wetland mitigation site approved as part of the **Playa Vista Development Project**.

conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat [illegible] for biologically sustainable population of those species, and it is identified as a Trustee Agency pursuant to the State Guidelines Implementing CEQA (Section 15386) with jurisdiction over natural resources. Also, the Department acts as a lead agency or responsible agency (CEQA Guidelines Section 15381) for those projects that come under the purview of the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code Section 2050 et seq) or Fish and Game Code Sec[illegible] the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve, the [illegible] tly impact the ecc[illegible]

The Dept. is interested in any project or activity that could directly or indirectly impact the ecological reserve.

If you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please contact Mr. Don Chadwick, Senior Environment Scientist, of my staff, at 858-467-4276

Sincerely,

Larry L. Eng, Ph.D.
Regional Manager

The FEIR contains neither the evaluation of Ballona's natural freshwater resources nor harm to these resources if the SCC/CDFW preferred plan of excavation below sea level to create a full tidal saltwater bay is carried forward.

"The overall goal of the project is to restore, enhance, and create estuarine habitat and processes in the Ballona Ecosystem to support a natural range of habitat and functions, especially as related to estuarine dependent plants and animals." SAC fulfillment of SCC Directive.

From 2004 SCC Memo Goal of a range of alternatives providing for a mix of wetland habitats, to the 2006 SCC Estuarine Directive Contract Letter with Southern California Coastal Wetland Recovery Project (SCCWRP) & Science Advisory Committee (SAC) and finally a Memo of no Alts without levee removal. Elimination of range of alternatives and elimination of evaluation of natural freshwater resources onsite. Final SAC 2009-10.

1. Restore regionally important wetland Note: General goal that still speaks to Ballona being valuable, esp. cause it is a large area that can be restored..theme	Restore, enhance and create estuarine and associated habitats and processes to support a natural range of habitat structures and functions in the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve (BWER), a regionally important habitat area that represents one of the largest and most important opportunities to restore coastal wetlands in Los Angeles County.	Addresses SAC goal 1
2. Restore natural hydraulic processes and function to support estuarine habitats across the site Note: Goal's intent is to eliminate alternatives that wouldn't take out levees..dynamic interaction, and other hydro processes only possible if you do.	Establish processes and function within the BWER to support estuarine habitats by improving tidal circulation into the wetlands to enlarge the amount of area that is tidally inundated, increase tidal prism and excursión, lower residence time, ensure a more natural salinity gradient, and create a dynamic interaction between Ballona Creek, the Ballona Wetland, and the Santa Monica Bay.	Addresses SAC sub-goal3

MEMO

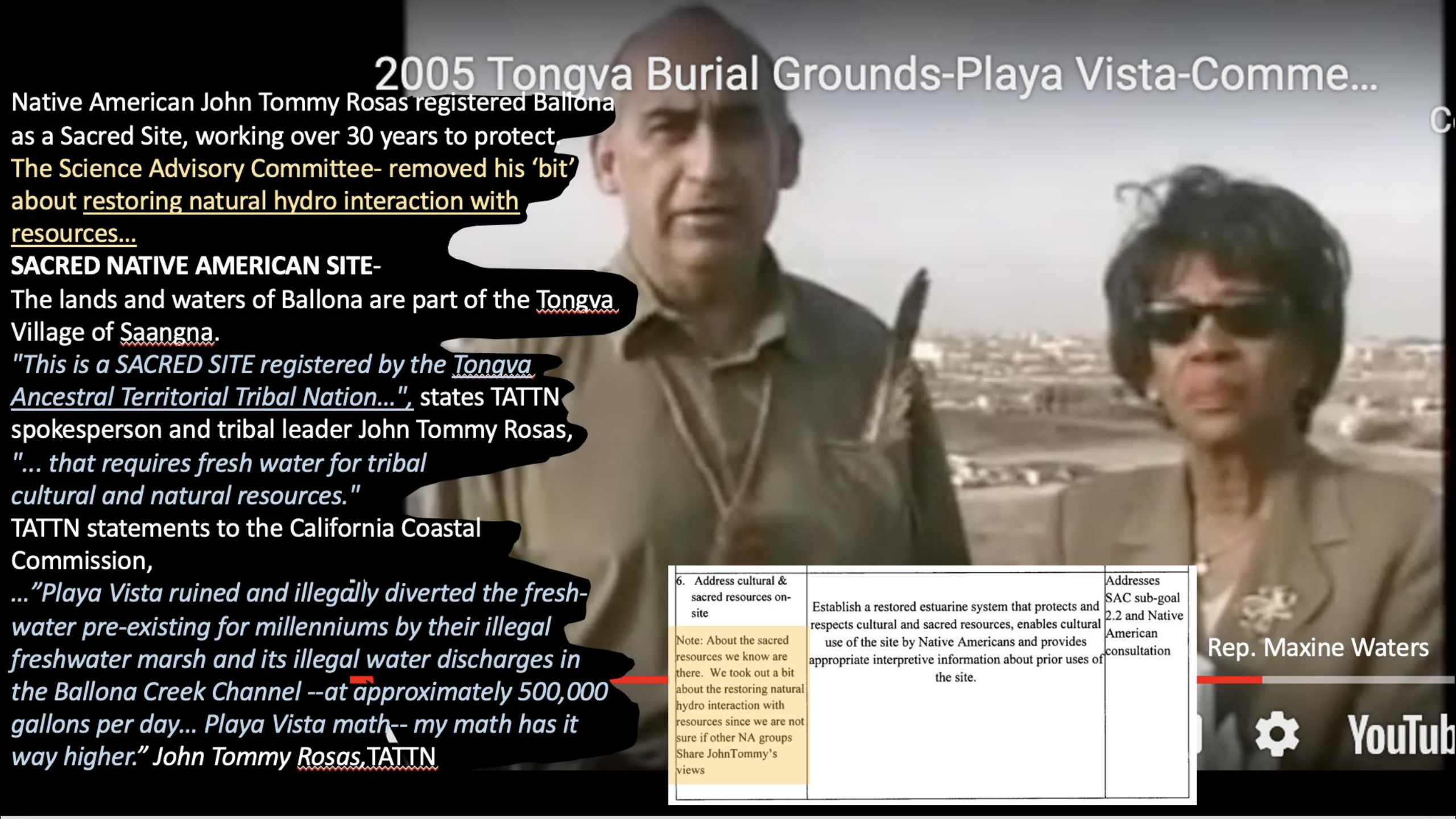
Date: October 15, 2008
From: Ballona Wetlands Science Advisory Committee
To: Ballona Project Management Team

Final SAC Recommendations

1. ***Maximize area of estuarine habitat.***
2. ***Restore large, contiguous and diverse estuarine wetlands with subtidal habitat adjacent to mudflat and wide transitional habitat areas. Refined alternatives should include preservation and enhancement of some upland and freshwater wetland habitat but should emphasize contiguous estuarine wetland habitat. Opportunities to create regionally significant habitat including vernal pools and native grasslands should be pursued, but not at the expense of the restoration of estuarine habitat.***

www.ballonarestoration.org

RESULT: A complete elimination of the Fish & Game Commission's Regulatory Directive for Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve as a Title 14, Section 630 Terrestrial/ Non-Marine Ecological Reserve.



Native American John Tommy Rosas registered Ballona as a Sacred Site, working over 30 years to protect.
The Science Advisory Committee- removed his 'bit' about restoring natural hydro interaction with resources...

SACRED NATIVE AMERICAN SITE-

The lands and waters of Ballona are part of the Tongva Village of Saangna.

"This is a SACRED SITE registered by the Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation...", states TATTN spokesperson and tribal leader John Tommy Rosas,

"... that requires fresh water for tribal cultural and natural resources."

TATTN statements to the California Coastal Commission,

*..."Playa Vista ruined and illegally diverted the fresh-water pre-existing for millenniums by their illegal freshwater marsh and its illegal water discharges in the Ballona Creek Channel --at approximately 500,000 gallons per day... Playa Vista math-- my math has it way higher." John Tommy Rosas,*TATTN

6. Address cultural & sacred resources on-site Note: About the sacred resources we know are there. We took out a bit about the restoring natural hydro interaction with resources since we are not sure if other NA groups Share JohnTommy's views	Establish a restored estuarine system that protects and respects cultural and sacred resources, enables cultural use of the site by Native Americans and provides appropriate interpretive information about prior uses of the site.	Addresses SAC sub-goal 2.2 and Native American consultation

STOP THE DRAIN!

*"The Ballona Wetlands Project cannot be considered apart from the Playa Vista Project. The Ballona Wetland's Restoration Project, by its location, is tied to the Playa Vista Development, located '**upstream**' in the Westchester-Playa del Rey Community of the City of Los Angeles." 2011 Dave Singleton, Native American Heritage Commission*

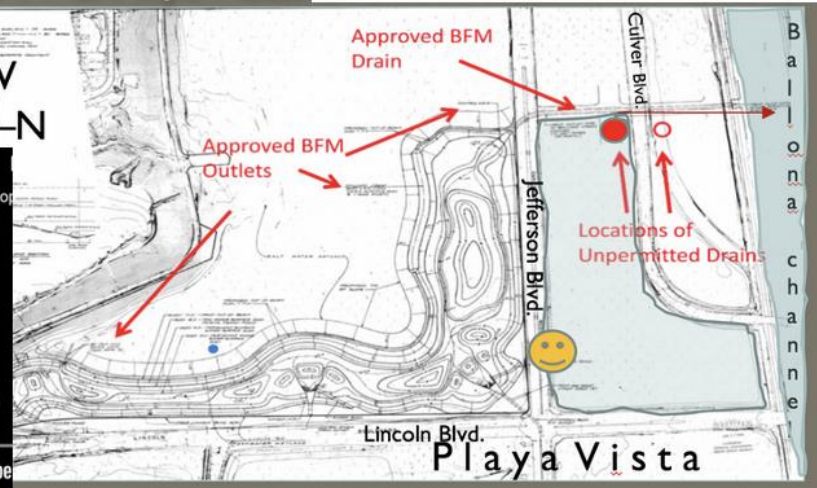
Ballona Indigenous People call Ballona Wetlands, Pwinikipar– Tongva for "it's full of water".

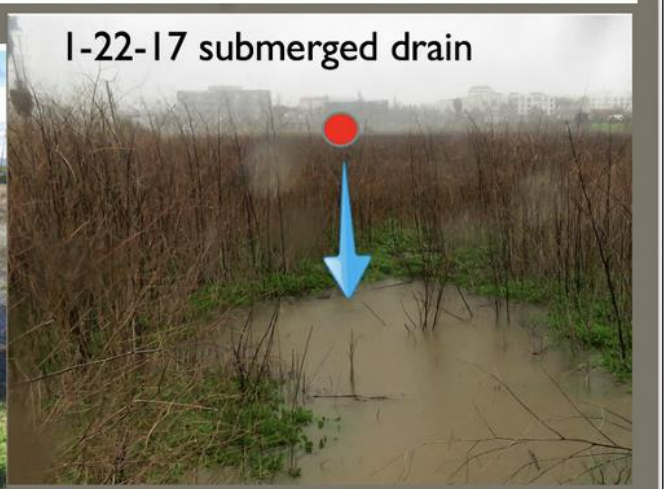
California Coastal Commission becomes aware of the unpermitted drainage in 2013, sending letters to CDFW to stop the harmful removal of freshwater. CDFW ignores until litigation stops them & CCC takes action.

Lisa Haage, Lead CCC Enforcement-
"We think that draining a wetland is about the most amazing violation that you could have."
"I mean, putting a drain in a wetland is exactly the opposite of anything that you'd do in a wetland."
(December 14, 2017 Dana Point Coastal Commission Meeting Item 10 C)

CDFW & Playa Vista:

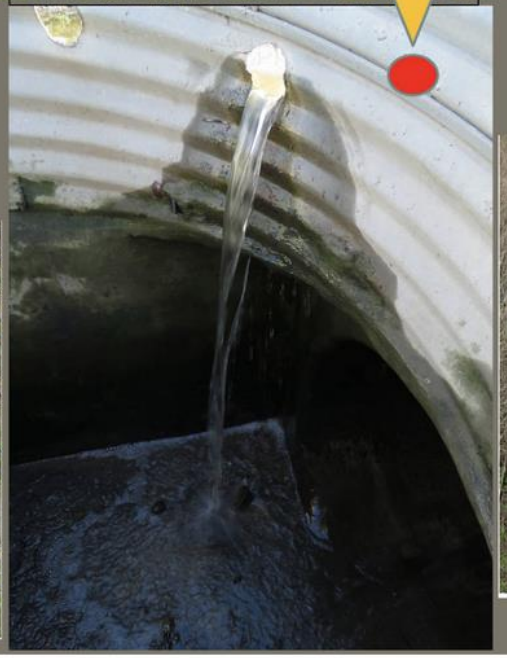
https://youtu.be/ZOLhyaVUJ84





Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve

Roughly 100,000-200,000 cubic feet of water is thrown away each rain event shown.



CDFW & Playa Vista partner in harming Ballona via decades of unpermitted drainage.

October 2012 Pre-capping Photo J. Coffin

Photos to East of South Drain Area B

August 2020 Three years post capping Photo M. Griswold

Unpermitted drains in Area B
in currently preserved areas that support wetland vegetation once drains were capped.

FEIR has inconsistencies of existing Hydrology and Vegetation: Capping the unpermitted drains in B north resulted in native pickleweed wetland habitat.

Endangered Belding's Savannah Sparrow

"The reduced volume of water has compromised the success of the mitigation project, limited the habitat function and value, and decreased fish and wildlife diversity." Betty Courtney CDFW **2017**

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
3883 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 467-4201
www.wildlife.ca.gov

CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director

Playa Vista, CA. 90094
Marc.Huffman@brookfieldrp.com

Subject: Ballona Wetland's Conservancy Riparian Corridor and Marsh Mitigation Area

Dear Mr. Huffman:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued Streambed Alteration Agreement number 1600-1993-0639-R5 and approved the Ballona Wetlands Freshwater Wetland System Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (Plan) for the Playa Vista Project (Project). In its issuance and approval of the Project, the Permittee is required to meet the terms and conditions of the mitigation for the riparian corridor and freshwater marsh as well as maintain the area in perpetuity. Part of the Plan necessitated the need for 0.29 Million Gallons a Day (MGD) of water from the groundwater treatment facility [a remediation measure required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)] to be discharged into the riparian corridor and marsh mitigation area. To date, the facility provides an average of 0.12 MGD of water. The reduced volume of water has compromised the success of the mitigation project, limited the habitat function and value, and decreased fish and wildlife diversity.

CDFW supports water recycling and groundwater replenishment projects. However, CDFW cannot support the reduction of water to the riparian corridor and marsh mitigation area. CDFW is concerned that existing fish, wildlife, and plant resources (beneficial uses) are not being considered. The reduction of flows will have a significant adverse effect if water is increasingly diverted away from existing lakes, streams, and rivers and their associated habitat used by wildlife. CDFW believes that there are several alternative ways to ensure the protection of wildlife throughout the year and minimize adverse impacts to biological resources while continuing to make California's water supply more reliable.

CDFW encourages RWQCB and others to consider the cumulative impact of surface water reduction projects within the same watershed. When multiple projects decrease their discharge to a watercourse or watershed, this can have a significant cumulative effect on stream flow, stream ecology, and the wildlife dependent upon the water. However, if each project is considered in isolation, the impacts do not become apparent until it is too late in the process to easily modify the projects to protect wildlife resources.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

Marc Huffman, Vice
Brookfield Residentia
August 9, 2017
Page 2 of 2

CDFW looks forward
future changes in wa
alternatives with you
these public trust use
reliability.

Sincerely,

Betty Courtney
Environmental Progr
South Coast Region

ec: Mr. Dave Chernik, Playa Vista Environmental, DChernik@playavista.com

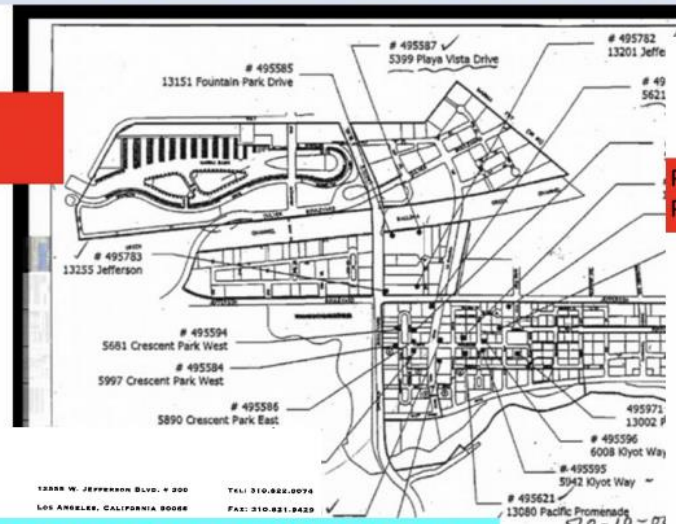
2019

Figure 3. Surface dissolved oxygen (mg/L) throughout the Freshwater Marsh on August 16, 2019 (n=117).

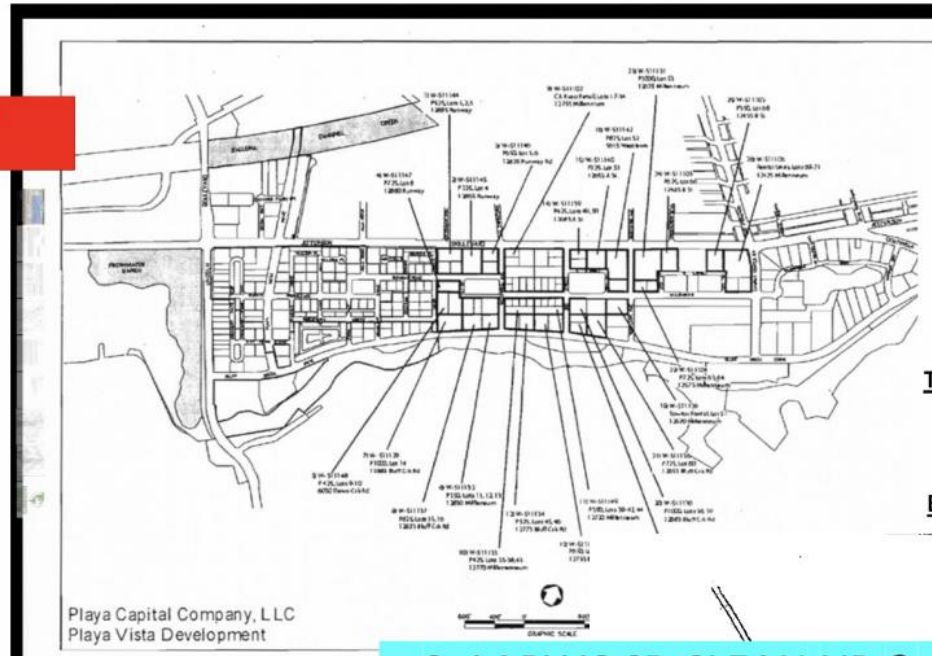
The historic water table is at or near the surface at Ballona. Playa Vista's gas mitigation systems must be kept free of water.
All the Playa Vista sites shown must be continually dewatered. The water is being thrown-away into the sanitary sewer.
This clean freshwater should be going to Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.

Ongoing and perpetual dewatering operations for gas mitigation systems below 1 & 2 story subterranean garages & buildings.

Playa Vista Phase 1



Playa Vista Phase 2



STOP

THE WASTEFUL, NEEDLESS THROW-AWAY OF BALLONA'S FRESHWATER.

LARWQCB CleanUp & Abatement ORDER 98-125 1996- 2008 records= nearly 300 million gallons alone.

1. GAS MITIGATION DEWATERING...

PLAYA VISTA

14 dewatering locations
14 permits

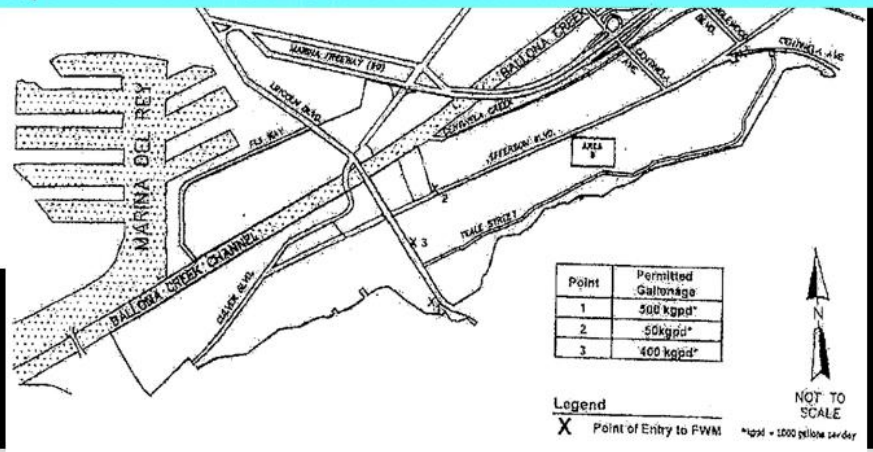
No.	Location	Avg. Wastewater Flow
1-	Fountain Park Apartments, LA 90066 #1	1,000 gallons
2-	Fountain Park Apartments, LA 90066 #2	1,000 gallons
3-	13255 Jefferson, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
4-	13201 Jefferson, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
5-	5621 Playa Vista Drive, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
6-	5681 Crescent Park West, LA 90066	1,000 gallons
7-	5750 Crescent Park East, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
8-	5997 Crescent Park West, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
9-	5890 Crescent Park East, LA 90066	1,000 gallons
10-	5944 Playa Vista Drive, LA 90066	1,000 gallons
11-	6028 Crescent Park East, LA 90066	1,000 gallons
12-	6102 Playa Vista Drive, LA 90066	1,000 gallons
13-	5942 Kiyot Way, LA 90066	5,000 gallons
14-	6008 Kiyot Way, LA 90066	5,000 gallons

250 - 500 gallons per day

2. MISCELLANEOUS DEWATERING....

Ou				Maximum Daily Flow (gallons per day)
02	North East corner of Bay St. and Jefferson Blvd.	33° 58' 26"	118° 25' 39"	29,000
08	North of Jefferson Blvd., West of Lincoln Blvd.	33° 58' 13"	118° 26' 01"	21,000
09	North of Jefferson Blvd., West of Lincoln Blvd.	33° 58' 12"	118° 26' 04"	170,000
10	South of Jefferson Blvd., West of Lincoln Blvd.	33° 58' 11"	118° 26' 03"	21,000
05	North West corner of Lincoln Blvd. and Jefferson Blvd.	33° 58' 22"	118° 25' 49"	1,000
06	South West corner of Lincoln Blvd. and Jefferson Blvd.	33° 58' 20"	118° 25' 48"	1,000
07	Bay St., North of Jefferson Blvd.	33° 58' 34"	118° 25' 37"	21,000
11	Playa Vista Dr., North of Jefferson Blvd.	33° 58' 31"	118° 25' 38"	21,000
12	East Side of Lincoln Blvd. between Teale St. and Jefferson Blvd.	33° 57' 58"	118° 25' 32"	100,000

3. LARWQCB CLEAN UP & ABATEMEMENT DEWATERING



The Wildlife Conservation Board approved funding for a LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN for Ballona Wetlands. It has not been done. A timely LMP is required under Fish & Game Code 1019 for new Ecological Reserves. No LMP has been done. CDFW's LMP protocol provides for surface/groundwater interaction as outlined in CDFW's protocol for Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems.

We request all stop on public trust property of Ballona ER and the Expanded Wetlands Parcel until a full GSP/LMP is performed.

No hydrology studies of Ballona Wetlands itself have been done to determine the negative impacts of the cumulative freshwater dewatering to Ballona Wetlands as can be noted in the following document portion produced by a member of the Project Management Team in the current EIR/S; Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) process. (Public Record Act response document)

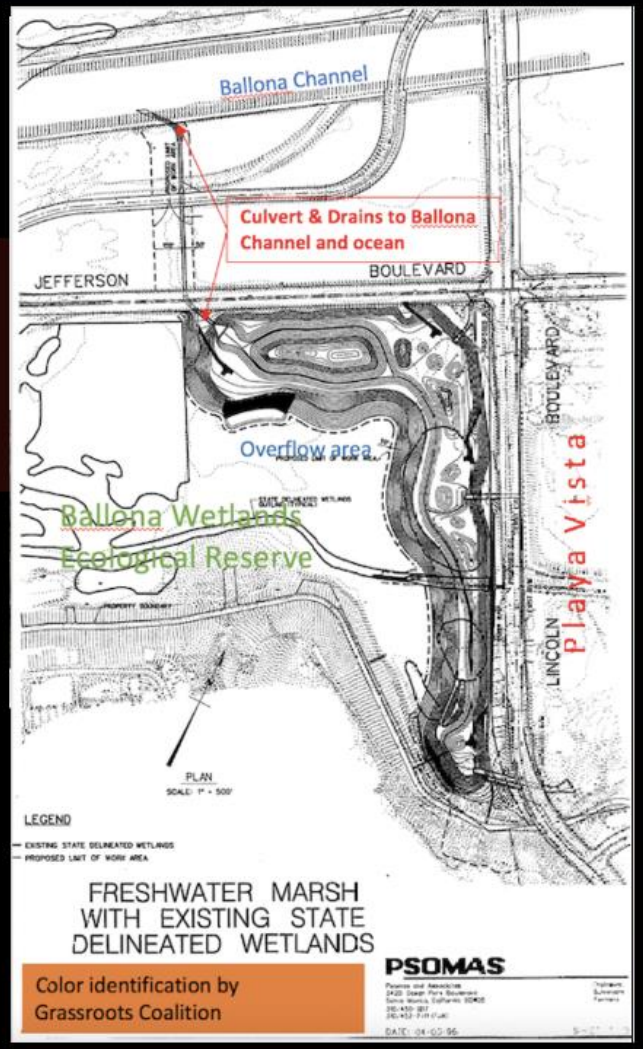
5670662	Geotechnical	Appendix B – Geotechnical Memorandum	n/a	n/a

Comment Classification: **For Official Use Only (FOUO)**

What is the groundwater condition at the project site?

Submitted By: David Tran (213-452-3563). Submitted On: Jun 05 2014

Evaluation not conducted



No Flood Control Permit Issued for Playa Vista
Isn't CDFW's Big Dig Plan for Ballona a Gifting of Public Funds to Fulfill Playa Vista's Private needs for flood control ?

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CA 91803

September 27, 2017

Mr. John Davis
P.O. Box 10152
Marina del Rey CA. 90295
E-mail: jd@johnanthonydavis.com

RESPONSE IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

We have reviewed your public records request received on September 20, 2017, and we offer the following:

☐ Transmitted herewith are the records you requested.

☐ We are searching for the records you have requested. We will contact you to arrange a delivery method by _____.

☒ We failed to find any records that satisfy your request for the properties below.

Requesting any and all Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Flood Permit Application for both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Playa Vista Development in Los Angeles County which is bounded by Lincoln Blvd to the West, Bluff Creek Drive to the South, Jefferson Blvd. to the North, except for a portion, which boarders Ballona Creek North of Jefferson to the West, and South Centinela to the East.

Please provide any and all Flood Permits issued for the same project, including Phase One to the West and or Phase Two to the East.

Phase one includes the following addresses:

6020 Seabluff Drive Los Angeles CA
7101 Playa Vista Drive, Playa Vista (Los Angeles) CA
13020 Pacific Prom. Playa Vista (Los Angeles) CA

For more information regarding this response, please contact:

ROSEMARIE BRAZAL, Investigator I
Claims & Litigation Section, Survey/Mapping & Property Management Division
Phone: (626) 458-7049 - Fax: (626) 979-5408
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 6:30 a. m. – 5:00 p. m
Email Address: rbrazal@dpw.lacounty.gov

PERMIT APPLICATION
for a
FRESHWATER WETLAND SYSTEM
at Ballona

--

a 27-Acre Freshwater Marsh
and
a 25-Acre Riparian Corridor

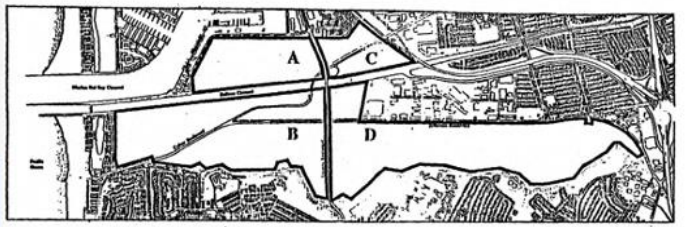
APPLICANT

Maguire Thomas Partners-Playa Vista, a limited partnership
13250 Jefferson Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90094
(213) 822-0074

AUTHORIZED AGENT

Mr. Richard E. Hammond, Esq.
Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe
333 Bush Street
San Francisco, California
(415) 772-6619
fax (415) 772-6268

Exhibit B



PLAYA VISTA - Site Area

EXHIBIT NO. 3
APPLICATION NO.
5-91-463
LUP SITE AREAS

II. Functions of the Freshwater Marsh and Freshwater Wetland System.

The Freshwater Wetland System is expressly designed as a combined flood control and major habitat restoration project. It is the most ecologically sound means of providing the flood control and stormwater management capacity needed in the area. It would provide the flood control and surface runoff management MTP-PV requires for Phase I and subsequent development of its Playa Vista Project in Area D, east of Lincoln Boulevard, and for approximately 539 acres of land off-site of the Playa Vista Project that presently drains into Ballona.

With new SEA LEVEL RISE predictions, Ballona's habitat is Safe BUT FOR CDFW's and Playa Vista's dewatering operations & FEIR Plans to Excavate Ballona Below Sea Level as an apparent flood control device to benefit Playa Vista.